(b) if so, the action taken by Government;

(c) if no action has been taken so far, the reasons therefor and by when the action will be initiated; and

(d) the present status of the proposal to extend the suburban railway services on Western Railway upto Dahanu Road?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Providing terminal facilities at Dahanu Road may not be convenient to the travelling public as it is 126 km. from Churchgate.

(d) At present DMU services are running between Virar and Dahanu Road.

Reserved Berths for Disabled in Trains

432. SHRI MUKESH R. PATEL:

SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are going to allot reserved berths for disabled in the train;

(b) if so, the reservation proportion thereof; and

(c) whether any notification has been issued in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) Ministry of Railways have issued instructions to Zonal Railways in September, 1995 to earmark two berths in sleeper class in all .trains running on non-suburban section for handicapped persons performing thier journey on handicapped concessional ticket. The been accompanying the handicapped person as escort is also provided accommodation out of this quota.

Addition of AC 2 Tier and A,C 3 Tire Coaches in Sabarmati Express

433. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA':

SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to add AC 3 tier and AC 2 tier coaches in Sabarmati Express running between Faizabad and Ahmedabad;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) Railways have already decided to provide A.C.2 Tier sleeper coaches on all long distance overnight Mail/Express trains in a phased manner depending upon their availability from Production Units. However, provision of A.C. 3 tier sleeper coach on this train can only considered on its conversion into air brake as A.C. 3 Tier sleeper coaches are equipped with air brake system.

Conversion and Diversion of Gadhak-Solapur Section

434. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any provision was made in the Railway Budget, 1997-98 for conversion and diversion of Gadhak-Solapur Section of the railway line; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether parts of this provision have been diverted from this project, if so, how much of it has been so diverted and to which project; and

(c) whether work on Hotgi-Solapur Section has been affected thereby, if so, by when the work on the project was scheduled to be completed and how far it is likely to be delayed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir. An allocation of Rs. 79.20 crores has been provided in the Budget,